

Accordingly, claim 22 is submitted to be allowable for at least the reason that it depends on novel claim 6 while defining additional features of the present invention.

Claim 23 depends from claim 15. For the reasons set forth in section III(1) and section IV(2) of the response filed on May 20, 2001, claim 15 is submitted to be allowable.

Accordingly, claim 23 is submitted to be allowable for at least the reason that it depends on novel claim 15. In addition, claim 23 recites structure (pillar-type protrusions having protrusions and/or recesses) that is similar to structure recited in claims 4 and 8. Accordingly, in addition to being dependent on novel claim 15, claim 23 is submitted to be allowable for at least the related reasons discussed with respect to claims 4 and 8 in section IV(1) of the response filed on May 30, 2001.

Claim 24 is submitted to be allowable over the cited prior art because none of the cited prior art discloses the novel *combination* of elements recited therein. For example, claim 24 includes the same limitation formerly in claim 3 and now included in claims 1 and 15. That is, claim 24 recites in pertinent part, "a cross section of said column has one shape selected from trapezoid, triangle, and a shape whose sectional width decreases as it extends away from said heat receiving face." As acknowledged by the Examiner, none of Hatada et al., Kuno et al., nor Jordan et al. discloses or suggests a cross-section of the column as defined in claim 24 (i.e., the Examiner did not reject former claim 3 over any of these references).

Further, with respect to Elgar et al., it is submitted that Elgar et al. does not disclose or suggest "a plurality of protrusions ... being separated from each other by a plurality of first gaps and a plurality of second gaps, said first gaps being disposed parallel to said heat receiving face and said second gaps being disposed transversely to said heat receiving face, wherein said second gaps are configured to form paths for up-down air flow."

In particular, Elgar et al. does not disclose or suggest first gaps that are parallel to the heat receiving face. Instead, any alleged reading of a first gap would necessarily be angled upwardly relative to the heat receiving face.

In addition, Elgar et al. does not disclose or suggest "second gaps being disposed transversely to said heat receiving face", let alone second gaps "configured to form paths for up-down air flow" as recited in claim 24. As shown in Figure 2 of Elgar et al., there are no air-flow gaps located between respective fins that run transverse to the heating receiving face. Instead, each fin 33 has a splayed fin 34 located immediately adjacent thereto, thereby preventing "up-down air flow."

Accordingly, the device of Elgar et al. does not disclose or suggest the more efficient multi-air flow path configuration (i.e., horizontally and vertically throughout the heatsink) as provided by the present invention and recited in claim 24.

CONCLUSION

Having fully responded to all matters raised in the PTO letter dated August 13, 2001, Applicants submit that all claims are in condition for allowance, an indication for which is respectfully solicited.

If there are any outstanding issues that might be resolved by an interview or an Examiner's amendment, the Examiner is requested to contact Applicants' representative at the telephone number shown below.

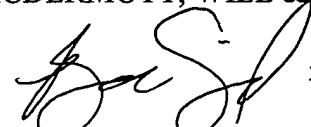
To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper,

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including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 500417 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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